

March 4, 2002

To: Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky, Chairman  
Supervisor Gloria Molina  
Supervisor Yvonne Brathwaite Burke  
Supervisor Don Knabe  
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From: David E. Janssen  
Chief Administrative Officer

**MOTION ON THE AVIATION DELAY PREVENTION ACT (ITEM NO. 3, AGENDA OF MARCH 5, 2002)**

Item No. 3 on the March 5, 2002 Agenda is a motion by Supervisor Knabe that the Board of Supervisors oppose Federal legislation that would eliminate or reduce environmental review requirements for airport expansion projects, and direct the CAO and the County's Washington advocates to work with California's Congressional Delegation to oppose provisions of S. 633 (Hutchison-R, Texas), the Aviation Delay Prevention Act, that would have the effect of relaxing the application of environmental review requirements to LAX expansion projects.

In its original form, S. 633 created a limited exemption from antitrust laws for airlines to meet and agree on flight schedules. It also provided for an "expedited coordinated environmental review process", to help airports improve passenger capacity. This review process still involved Federal, state and local agencies. In August, 2001, the bill was amended to eliminate state certification requirements for environmental reviews, and to authorize the bypassing of environmental review requirements for specified airport projects.

The bill has been inactive since August and no action is scheduled on it. A source on Senator Hutchinson's staff has reported that, since September 11, airport security is the top priority. Airport expansion projects are no longer creating sufficient concerns to move this bill. However, should airline traffic return to pre-September 11 levels, creating overcrowding at airports, the Senator will revive this bill, as it provides a solution to that problem.

According to our contacts, there is no organized support for this bill. The South Bay Council of Cities is opposed to it.

The motion is consistent with adopted Board policies and the County's Federal Agenda, which provides for opposing proposals which preempt local government decision making.

DEJ:GK  
DRS:md

c: Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors  
County Counsel